



**REPORT ON THE  
CENTENARY OF FEDERATION  
JOINT CEREMONIES**

at

**BROOKLYN, N S W**

on

**Friday 7 December 2001**



Senator Marice Payne and Mayor Steven Pringle unveiled Hornsby Council's Federation Foreshore and Federation Lookout Project plaque.



Andrew Leventhal, IEAust, and Mayor Steve Pringle unveiled the plaques to the Hawkesbury River Railway Bridges as National Engineering Landmarks.



*Dear Dr & Mrs Don Fraser*

*Councillor Steven Pringle, Mayor of Hornsby Shire Council  
with  
The Hon Philip Ruddock MP, Federal Member for Berowra*

*Invites you to join them for the official opening of the  
Brooklyn Federation Foreshore and Federation Lookout.*

*In the final stages of this Centenary of Federation year, be there to celebrate the  
extraordinary significance this small riverside village had in shaping our Nation's path  
to unity.*



*When: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2001  
6 – 7pm*



*Where: McKell Park  
Brooklyn*



*RSVP: Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2001 to:  
Hornsby Shire Council  
Community Relations Team  
on 02 9847 6873 or by emailing  
[jlester@hornsby.nsw.gov.au](mailto:jlester@hornsby.nsw.gov.au)*



**Centenary of Federation**



*AUSTRALIA'S  
CENTENARY OF FEDERATION  
2001*

**INVITATION TO CELEBRATE**



with the plaquing of the Hawkesbury River Railway bridges as a  
***NATIONAL ENGINEERING LANDMARK***



The 1946 and 1889 Hawkesbury River Railway Bridges.

AT  
**HORNSBY SHIRE COUNCIL'S**  
***BROOKLYN FEDERATION FORESHORE***

The McKell Park, 7 December at 6 pm.

**McKell Park Opening Schedule**  
**Dangar Road, McKell Park**

Time	Activity	Person	Comments	Duration
6.00 pm	String trio play			10 mins
6.10 pm	Short welcome speech & Anthem	Mr Robert Ball	Asks everyone to join in the National Anthem led by string trio and ?	2 mins
6.13 pm		Mr Robert Ball	Introduces Mayor	1 minute
6.14 pm	Mayor's speech	Mayor Cllr Steven Pringle		5 minutes
6.19 pm		Mr Robert Ball	Introduces Senator Marice Payne (for Ruddock)	1 minute
6.20 pm	Senator's speech	Senator Marice Payne	Speaks about Federal Grant	5 minutes
6.25 pm		Mr Robert Ball	Robert introduces Mr Andrew Leventhal – President of Sydney Division, Institution of Engineers	1 minutes
6.26 pm	Mr Leventhal's speech	Mr Andrew Leventhal	Speaks about historical Brooklyn Bridge and does plaque unveiling. Mayor invited to participate.	10 minutes
6.36 pm		Mr Robert Ball	Thanks everyone for attending. Invites all to share in refreshments.	1 minute
6.37 pm	Refreshments served	Riverside Catering	Chance for everyone to mingle	
6.37 pm	String trio play			
7.15 pm	Close of proceedings			





*Brooklyn's McKell Park  
Federation Foreshore & Federation Lookout  
Opening  
Friday 7th December 2001*

*Order of proceedings*

*Sondelle, String Trio  
Mr Robert Ball, GM Hornsby Shire Council  
Cllr Steven Pringle, Mayor of Hornsby Shire  
Senator Marise Payne  
Mr Andrew Leventhal, Institution of Engineers  
Refreshments served*



*Centenary of Federation*



The Sondelle String Trio entertained guests prior to the ceremonies.  
Leader is Deborah Scholem, centre.



Proceedings opened with Deborah Scholem  
singing the National Anthem.





120 people attended the event.



Robert Ball, General Manager,  
Hornsby Shire Council.



Mayor of Hornsby Shire Council Steven Pringle,  
Robert Ball, Senator Marice Payne and Andrew  
Leventhal, President, Sydney Division, I E Aust.



## **Speech notes by Mayor Pringle Brooklyn, 7 December 2001**

It is my pleasure to welcome you all here today to McKell Park to celebrate the launch of one of the most significant Centenary of Federation projects in the region.

I would like to extend a special welcome to Senator Marice Payne, who is assisting this evening in launching Brooklyn's Federation Foreshore and Federation Lookout. Senator Payne is representing Federal Member for Berowra, the Hon. Phillip Ruddock MP.

Members from the Institution of Engineers, Australia, are also joining us today to celebrate the significance of the Hawkesbury River railway bridges as a National Engineering Landmark.

I would also like to acknowledge noted local historian and author, Tom Richmond, who has strongly supported and actively sought to increase Brooklyn's profile as a major contributor in Australia's Federation history.

He has long been a proponent for recognising the role of Brooklyn in the process of Federation, including the significant bridging of the Hawkesbury River as a seminal point in uniting the then Australian colonies.

Centenary of Federation Selection Committee Chairperson, Betty Grant OAM, is also joining us today and I would like to thank her and the committee for selecting McKell Park as a worthy recipient of the Centenary of Federation grant from the Federal Government.

This is certainly an historic day marking the extensive construction and restoration work, undertaken by Hornsby Shire Council, to celebrate and promote the rich history of the area and its role in Australia's Federation.

McKell Park provides an appropriate focal point for recognising the important contribution made by Brooklyn and its environs to the evolution of our nation and the achievement of Federation in particular.

The Centenary of Federation is an ideal time for Australians to recognise the significance of this small riverside village in our Nation's path to unity.

This recognition is in the form of a Federation Foreshore Promenade and Lookout together with substantial visual displays. These displays recognise the history of the area from its original inhabitants, the *Garigal* people, to European settlement, the construction of the railway linking the colonies, wartime challenges faced by the community and the role of Brooklyn in the progress of Federation.

In 1889 Sir Henry Parkes, at the opening of the Brooklyn Railway Bridge, addressed the issue of Federation. Unfortunately the significance of this address has not received the same recognition as the famous Tenterfield oration a few months later.

Members of the 1891 Convention, including Sir Edmund Barton, drafted Australia's Constitution on the waters viewed from Brooklyn.

Brooklyn also hosted a visit by the Duke and Duchess of York (later King George V and Queen Mary) as part of the Federation celebrations.

The federation Foreshore and Federation Lookout Projects that we are celebrating today, comprise many wonderful features. These include, as mentioned, an interpretive display on Brooklyn and its role in Federation and the construction of the landscaped Federation promenade and foreshore from McKell Park to Parsley Bay.

The project also features the Federation Lookout including the upgrading of picnic facilities in upper and lower McKell Park, the construction of a new playground in lower McKell Park and, rehabilitation and regeneration of native bushland on the McKell Park headland.

The upgrades are also part of a strategy to improve the tourist potential and residential amenity of Brooklyn.

Work has also been undertaken to widen the roadway between lower and upper McKell Parks to provide additional parking. A residents' committee has been established to further Council's commitment to increasing foreshore car parking through reclaiming land adjacent to the Brooklyn Marina. Additional paid private parking is also being planned.

I would like to acknowledge the Federal Government's assistance in making this project a reality with a \$200,000 grant to contribute towards the Centenary of Federation aspects of the project. Hornsby Shire Council has also contributed in excess of \$350,000 to the project.

This project will help us acknowledge and maintain our connection with Federation history as well as enhance a beautiful part of our Shire, show-casing it for both locals and tourists to enjoy.

Council has also recently resolved to name one of its function rooms in Council Chambers, *The Brooklyn Federation Room*. Brooklyn's contribution to Australia's Federation will also be commemorated in the form of a permanent display that is currently being prepared and will be unveiled early in 2002. Brooklyn deserves recognition and I am proud as Mayor to be promoting its cause.



Thank you for being part of our celebrations today. McKell Park is a wonderful asset to our Shire and the work that has been undertaken allows us to commemorate and reflect upon the important role this area has played in shaping Australia's Federation history.

I would like to wish each and every one of you, and your families, a ver Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year.

Thank you.

After Senator Payne's speech, she and the Mayor proceeded to unveil the Federation Foreshore and Federation Lookout plaque.



Senator Marice Payne, representing Mr Ruddock MP, spoke of her experiences with functions during the the Centenary of Federation Year, 2001.



Senator Payne and Mayor Pringle unveiled the Federation Foreshore and Federation Lookout plaque.





# THE BROOKLYN FEDERATION FORESHORE AND FEDERATION LOOKOUT PROJECT

A Centenary of Federation and Hornsby Shire Council Project  
Officially opened on 7th December 2001

## OPENED BY

The Hon Phillip Ruddock MP  
Member for Berowra

## IN THE PRESENCE OF

Cllr Steven Pringle  
Mayor

## MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Cllr John Muirhead  
Cllr Graham Orr  
Cllr Steve Russell

Cllr Nan Horne Dep. Mayor  
Cllr Nick Berman  
Cllr Susan White

R. J. Ball General Manager

Cllr Steven Pringle  
Cllr Matthew Benson  
Cllr Robert Browne



The second Hawkesbury River Railway Bridge, 1946 – still in service



Floating a K-truss of the 1946 bridge

Resident Engineer, Keith King

It was one of the largest bridge projects in Australia during the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

It was approved and built as an essential wartime (WW II 1939-46) project.

Its design, fabrication and erection were entirely the work of the engineers, workshop tradesmen and field staff of the Way and Works Branch, NSW Government Railways.

It was a significant achievement for the local engineering expertise and was recognised as a bridge of international merit.

It cost £1,400, 000 (three times the first bridge) but it has proved to be a far more cost-effective structure, with no threat to its longevity.

It is founded on the same material as the first bridge, but more successfully, so its piers are among the deepest in the world.

The bridge has consolidated the railway link along the east coast of Australia with enormous social and commercial benefits to the nation.

The bridge has been included in the S170 Register of railway underbridges of the Rail Infrastructure Corporation, being of State Significance.

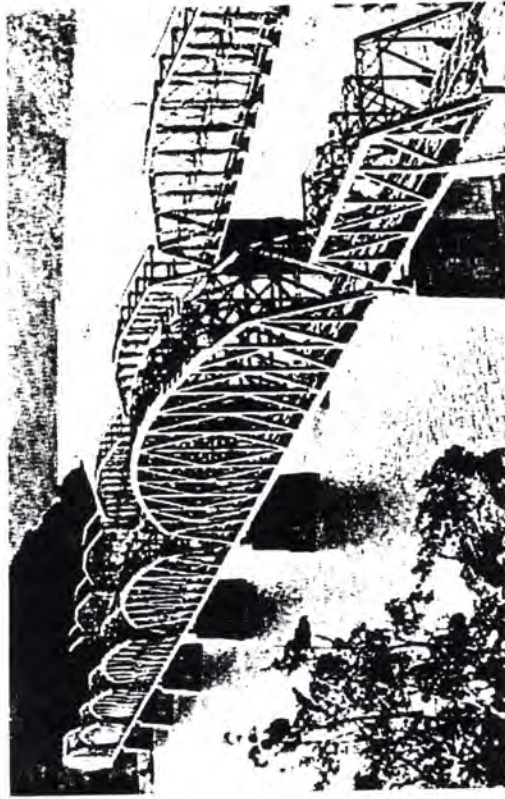
AUSTRALIA'S  
CENTENARY OF FEDERATION  
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CELEBRATED BY THE



The  
Institution  
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Australia

with the plaquing of the Hawkesbury River Railway bridges as a  
**NATIONAL ENGINEERING LANDMARK**



The 1946 and 1889 Hawkesbury River Railway Bridges.

AT  
HORNSBY SHIRE COUNCIL'S

**BROOKLYN FEDERATION FORESHORE**

The McKell Park, 7 December at 6 pm.



## Order of ceremony

Andrew LEVENTHAL,  
President, Sydney Division, Institution of Engineers, Australia.  
*The Institution and its Centenary of Federation Plaquing Programme,  
Sir Henry Parkes, the symbolism of the 1889 bridge, the engineers.*

Unveiling the plaques  
Andrew Leventhal, Cnr Steven Pringle, Mayor of Hornsby Shire  
Council and the Hon Philip Ruddock MP, Federal Member for  
Berowra.

## The plaque citation,

### Hawkesbury River Railway Bridges

The first bridge constructed here between 1886-1889 by the Union Bridge Company (USA) was the largest bridge project in colonial Australia. The bridge had pinjointed trusses on the world's deepest piers. As the joining link in the railway between Adelaide and Brisbane it was one of Sir Henry Parkes' symbols in campaigning for Federation. Bearing seizure, pier deterioration and increased loadings necessitated its replacement. Its successor, opened in 1946, was designed and constructed by engineers and workers of the NSW Government Railways who succeeded in solving the problems of the previous bridge, while operating under the restrictions on materials and skills due to World War 2 demands.

Dedicated by  
The Institution of Engineers, Australia  
State Rail Authority of NSW  
and Hornsby Shire Council

2001 – The Centenary of Federation

## The first Hawkesbury River Railway Bridge, 1889-1946



The 1889 maker's plaque



Deputy Chief Engineer, Henry Deane

It was the largest bridge project in colonial Australia until the Sydney Harbour Bridge in 1932.

It completed the railway link between South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland, thereby stimulating the move to Federation.

Estimates by John Whitton, Engineer-in-Chief for the NSW Government Railways exceeded government expectations, so world wide tenders were called.

Much to his chagrin, an American company, The Union Bridge Company, won the contract, a significant event in a British dominated colony.

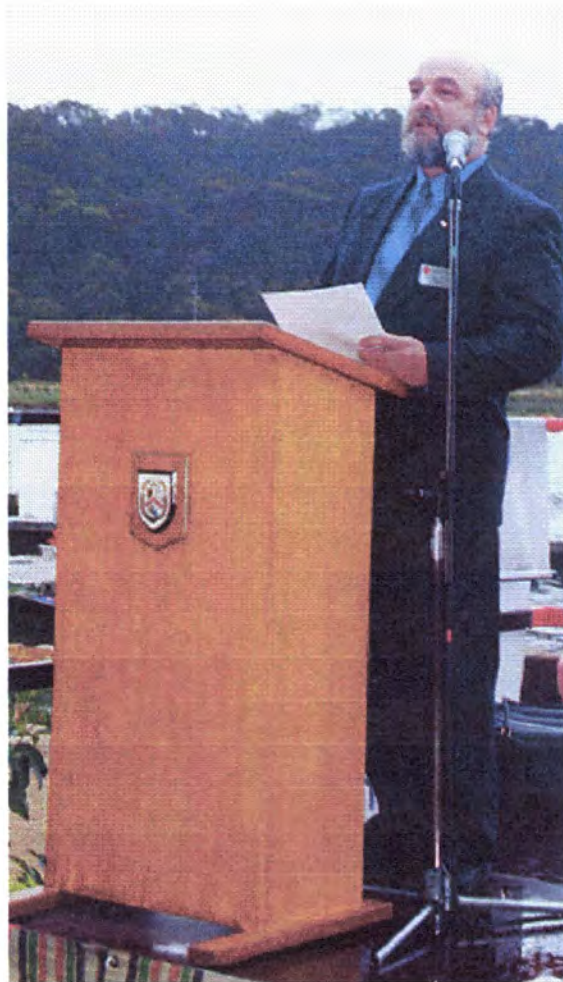
The tender price of £ 367,000 is equivalent to \$ 50 million in \$Y2001.

The size of the project received international attention.

The caissons for the piers were sunk to depths of 180 feet below water level, the deepest bridge foundations in the world at that time.

It was the largest application of American pin-jointed trusses in Australia.

Overall supervision was by Deputy Chief Engineer, Henry Deane with sub-contractors from the USA, England and Scotland. Stone facing of the piers was by Louis Samuel, Sydney, the only surviving element.



Andrew Leventhal, President, Sydney Division, Institution of Engineers, Australia spoke about the Institution, engineering heritage, the two Hawkesbury River railway bridges and their engineers, Henry Deane and Keith King.



# HAWKESBURY RAILWAY BRIDGES PLAQUING

Speech by Andrew Leventhal, President, Sydney Division, I E Aust

Distinguished guests,      Members of the Institution of Engineers Australia,  
Members of Engineering Heritage Australia,      Ladies and Gentlemen.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to today's proceedings.

It would seem to me appropriate that we are gathered in McKell Park, named in memory of Sir William McKell. He was a boilermaker at the Eveleigh Railway Workshops, a Premier of NSW and the second Australian appointed Governor General. That provides another connection with the Centenary of Federation, and another reason to be here today.

I represent the **Institution of Engineers, Australia** at this ceremony, in my capacity as President of Sydney Division. This I do with pride, as the **Australian Historic Engineering Plaquing Programme** provides a means of recognition of the contribution of the Engineering Profession to the well-being of the community.

I have been asked to explain some of the background to the **Australian Engineering Heritage Plaquing Programme**. Kindly bear with me for a few minutes before the plaque is unveiled.

The Institution of Engineers Australia (IEAust) is the peak body representing the professional engineering team. IEAust has over 60,000 members Australia-wide.

The Institution of Engineers, Australia has a broad spread of interests:

- It promotes and advances the science and practice of engineering in all its forms.
- It encourages the development of Australia's technological capacity and its contribution to our economic growth.
- It provides advice on policy input on engineering and technology to Government.
- And IEAust provides services to our members - through professional standing, continued professional development and graduate development programmes, amongst many others.

One of the important parts of the public face of IEAust are the activities of Engineering Heritage Australia and its engineering heritage committees. Our presence here today is evidence to that value.

**And, what is heritage??**      Heritage is the evidence of our past that we leave to future generations.

- It doesn't have to have high monetary value, and it doesn't have to be beautiful.
- Most people think of heritage as being buildings, but it is a lot more.
- Heritage does, however, visually and tangibly tell us that "we stand on the shoulders" of our forebears. In that way, it tells where we came from, and why our infrastructure is the way it is....and more than other professionals, it is the engineer who has provided our national infrastructure.

- And without recognition of our heritage, I suggest, our society would be spiritually poorer.

The work of the IEAust Heritage Committees therefore is about:

- making people aware of our rich engineering heritage
- making them aware of the contribution of engineers, and
- encouraging the conservation of important engineering works.

and.....

....this brings me to the **Historic Engineering Plaquing Programme**. It is one of the important public awareness campaigns of Engineering Heritage Australia:

- Its purpose is to bring public recognition to significant engineering works, and the engineers who create them.
- For works of regional significance, there is the **Historic Engineering Marker**. So far, 65 of these have been awarded nation-wide.
- For works of outstanding national importance, there is the **National Engineering Landmark** award, of which 27 so far have been awarded throughout Australia. Amongst these include: the Sydney Harbour Bridge, the Parkes Radio Telescope and the Snowy Mountains Scheme. The latest was unveiled by the NSW Governor, Professor Marie Bashir, in October, being for **the Great North Road**.
- **The Hawkesbury Railway Bridges**, the 28th National Engineering Landmark, joins such diverse works as: Parramatta Dam (one of the earliest masonry arch dams in the world), Locomotive 3801, the Bendigo Gas Works, the Furphy Water Cart (and "that is the Furphy" which is the origin of the saying), Smith's Stump Jump Plough, the BMC-Leyland Motor Vehicle Plant at Zetland (which was a world leader in its day), the Sydney Tramway Museum and Wollongong Harbour.

This year, the Plaquing Programme has focused on 10 works which relate in some way to the **Federation of the Australian Nation**, or which contributed to the development of the Nation around 1901.

Briefly, these were:

- Wallangarra Railway Station - this is perhaps a symbol of the foolishness of a country having different rail gauges in various states and the need for a uniform rail gauge.
- Mining at Broken Hill and Kalgoorlie, which brought great wealth to Australia and great advances in minerals processing technology, outstandingly developed by engineers for the benefit of the nation.
- The Trees of Canberra Avenue - these were planted by engineers in 1926 to help beautify and landscape an old sheep paddock, which became our National capital.
- The East-West Telegraph that gave WA a communication link to the other colonies and through the Overland Telegraph, a link to the rest of the world.
- The Trans Australian Railway that brought Australia together in so many ways.



- The Engineering Works of the River Murray that have enabled farming and food production on an enormous scale.
- The engineering of Lake Burley Griffin & Scrivener Dam, set in the Nation's capital.
- And there are the bridges
  - the historic John Foord bridge at Corowa (which is a McDonald iron lattice truss). Of course Corowa also has an historic association with Federation and....
  - the Hawkesbury Railway Bridges that allowed, for the first time, SA, Vic, NSW and Qld to be joined by rail. The original 1889 bridge was used by Henry Parkes, in his opening speech, as a symbol of unification.

I trust this provides some background to today's ceremony, which celebrates the last of these 10 works.

### **Why the Hawkesbury Railway Bridges??**

The 1889 Hawkesbury Railway Bridge was amongst a group of colonial bridges that formed the rail network through NSW – one of the oldest of the surviving colonial railway bridges is the 1886 Iron Lattice Railway Bridge over the Parramatta River at Meadowbank.

You have heard **Mayor Steven Pringle**, make a brief reference to the history of the bridge itself, its relevance to this community and its part in the railway link from Queensland, through NSW, Victoria and South Australia as a symbol of the emerging Federation --this being particularly apt in this year, the Centenary of Federation.

You will also note in today's programme brochure, some of the details of the bridge construction, and the engineers involved – Deputy Chief Engineer for the NSW Government, Henry Deane, for the 1889 bridge and Keith King, the resident engineer for the 1946 bridge. He was affectionately known as "**Mr Hawkesbury River Bridge**".

However, in 1889 there were two speeches by Sir Henry Parkes that bear directly on the reason for being here today. On 24 October 1889, returning from Brisbane to Sydney, Parkes addressed a group in Tenterfield calling for "a great national government for all Australians". The address was reported in The Sydney Morning Herald, including the call for:

"a convention of leading men from all the colonies, delegates appointed by the authority of Parliament, who would fully represent the opinions of different Parliaments of the colonies".

The Tenterfield Oration has been described as "a call to the nation" and credited with starting the popular movement that led to Federation less than twelve years later. While that may not be the whole truth, the Tenterfield Oration has come to hold an important place in the history of Australian Federation. The significance of the Oration is that it marks the point at which New South Wales entered into public negotiations with the other colonies about Australian Federation."

Elsewhere in the Oration, Parkes was quoted as saying:

“They had now, from South Australia to Queensland, a stretch of about 2000 miles of railway, and if the four colonies could only combine to adopt a uniform gauge, it would be an immense advantage in the movement of troops.”

Earlier in 1889, the first Hawkesbury River Rail Bridge had been opened on 1<sup>st</sup> May. This linked the Great Northern Line into the continental rail network, and awakened all Australians to the possibility of a Federated nation.

At the opening ceremony, the Sydney Morning Herald quoted Parkes thus:

“Now, will not this be allowed to remain in the mind of every man here – that we met to celebrate the opening of this great bridge in peace, in friendship, and in friendly pride. We have here a representation of the great Government to our south and of the great Government to our north, and why should not this occasion be an emblem of our future relations?”

Parkes went on to say:

“It is said that the time has arrived for the political federation of these colonies..... I think it must develop by the progress of opinions, and that it is in that view that I regard the event which we are met here to celebrate today as one of potent influence for the welfare of these colonies.....(he continued)....I ask you to drink to the toast of “United Australia”.”

It was reported that the toast was heartily received.

The 1889 Hawkesbury River Bridge was one of those engineering marvels of the Railway Age. It was a bridge project much larger than any previously attempted in the colony. It was the largest of its kind in the southern hemisphere, and with regard to its foundations, one of the most remarkable bridges in the world. The Hawkesbury River, like Port Jackson, is a drowned river valley. It is a steeply-sided trough with a depth to rock down to 64m below high water, and 45m of this depth consists of soft alluvial sediments. The deepest pier was/is 49m below high water level, and 62.5m below rail level. For comparison, the Sydney Town Hall is 56m tall. There were some intriguing challenges during construction of the caissons to this depth. Upon completion, the bridge was a world-class structure. I refer you again to the programme brochure for some of the details.

The nomination report described the 1889 bridge as the largest application of American bridge technology, the largest colonial bridge project, and socially, an important railway link & symbol of Federation. Unfortunately, there were design and construction faults that prevented the bridge achieving the longevity of service anticipated. Though the superstructure was demolished in 1946, there are bridging components still in use at railway locations in NSW and structural elements have been salvaged from a steel building at Chullora. And there are the original piers and abutments.

The 1946 bridge we see today, was one of the largest bridge projects constructed in Australia during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The bridge carries two tracks of standard gauge at 3.6m centres over



an 880m crossing. For navigation purposes, the clear headway above high water is 12m (40ft). The 1946 bridge was built upstream from and parallel to the 1889 bridge, it is founded at a slightly deeper depth – 56m below water level - making its piers amongst the deepest in the world. The caissons carry a design load of 20,000t. The construction of the 1946 bridge overcame the challenges not always met in the 1889 bridge.

The nomination report described the 1946 bridge as a rare combination of heavy-duty, riveted, steel truss types and sizes that consolidated the important colonial railway link. The 1946 bridge was a significant achievement for local engineering expertise, and was recognised as a bridge of international merit. It remains in mainline service and has proven a cost-effective structure.

I trust these snippets provide with some background to the Hawkesbury Railway Bridges and their relevance to this year, the Centenary of Federation. They come with good credentials.

Now, we are here today for the unveiling of two **National Engineering Landmark** plaques,  
.....  
the citation reads.....

### **Hawkesbury River Railway Bridges**

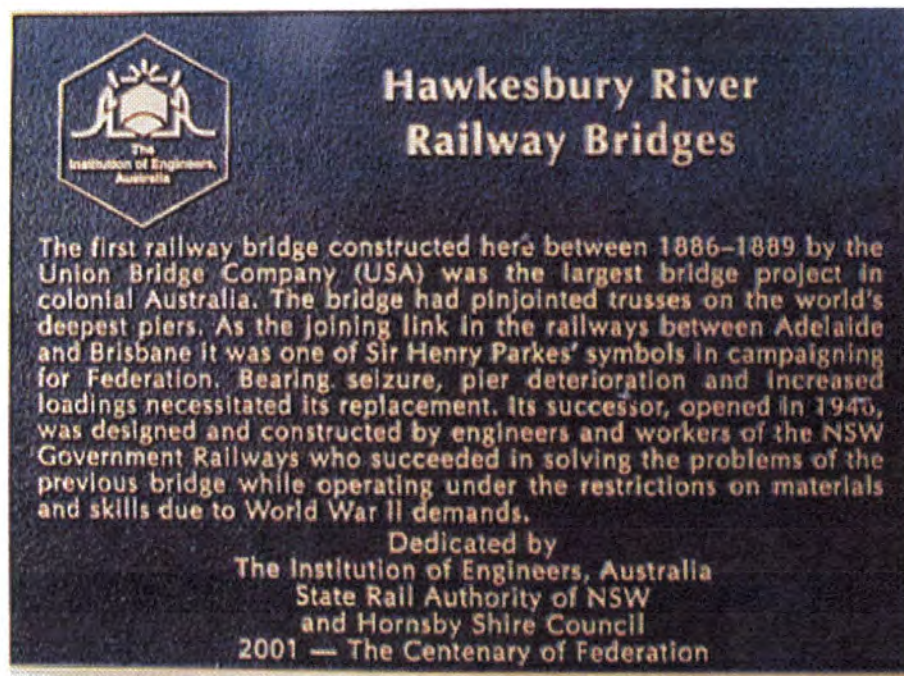
The first bridge constructed here between 1886-1889, by the Union Bridge Company (USA), was the largest bridge project in colonial Australia. The bridge had pin-jointed trusses on the world's deepest piers. As the joining link between Adelaide and Brisbane, it was one of Sir Henry Parkes' symbols in campaigning for Federation. Bearing seizure, pier deterioration and increased loadings necessitated its replacement. Its successor, opened in 1946, was designed and constructed by engineers and workers of the NSW Government Railways who succeeded in solving the problems of the previous bridge, while operating under restrictions on materials and skills due to World War II demands.

Dedicated by  
The Institution of Engineers, Australia  
State Rail Authority of NSW  
and Hornsby Shire Council

2001 – the Centenary of Federation

It is now my pleasant task to ask our distinguished guests to join me in unveiling these plaques declaring the Hawkesbury River Railway Bridges to be a **National Engineering Landmark** within the **Australian Historic Engineering Plaquing Programme**.

[Mayor Pringle, Senator Payne]



The Institution of Engineers plaques.



# MCKELL PARK LAUNCHED - BROOKLYN'S NATIONAL STATUS RECOGNISED

After months of construction and restoration work, undertaken by Hornsby Shire Council, the Federation Foreshore and Federation Lookout at McKell Park, Brooklyn was launched by Federal

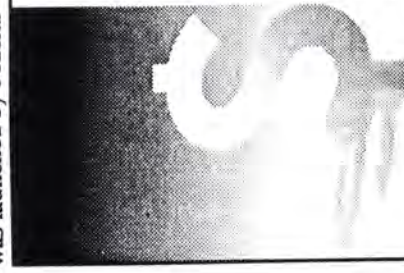
Member for Berowra, the Hon Phillip Ruddock MP, and Mayor of Hornsby Shire, Councillor Steven Pringle on December 7. This was one of the most significant Centenary of Federation projects in Australia.

"McKell Park provides an appropriate focal point for recognising the important contribution made by Brooklyn and its environs to the evolution of our nation and the achievement of Federation in particular," the Mayor said.

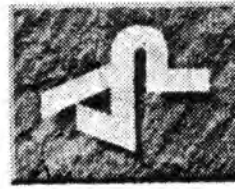
"This project will help us acknowledge and maintain our connection with Federation history as well as enhance a beautiful part of our Shire and showcase it to both locals and tourists," he continued.

Hornsby Shire Council has also contributed in excess of \$350,000 to the project. Features of the project include the federation pavilion complete with a static display on Brooklyn bushland on the McKell Park headland.

Members of the Institution of Engineers, Australia also attended the launch in celebration of the plaquing of the Hawkesbury River Railway bridges as a National Engineering Landmark.



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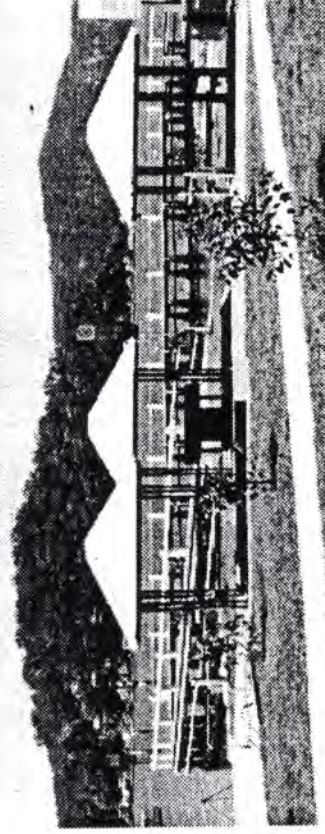
- **Wealth Creation**
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Call one of our Authorised Representatives at our Castle Hill office on:

Members of the 1891 Convention, including Sir Edmund Barton, drafted Australia's Constitution on the waters viewed from Brooklyn and prior to this in 1885, Sir Henry Parkes, at the opening of the Brooklyn Railway Bridge, addressed the issue of Federation in a forerunner to the famous Tenterfield oration a few years later.

Brooklyn also hosted a visit by the Duke and Duchess of York as part of the Federation celebrations and was later honoured by being chosen as the picture to illustrate Australia's first five pound note. Council received a \$200,000 grant from the Federal Government to contribute towards the Centenary of Federation aspects of the project.

Part of the McKell Park foreshore improvements.



and its role in Federation, construction of the landscaped federation promenade and foreshore from McKell Park to Parsley Bay with interpretive signage, the federation lookout including the upgrading of picnic and playground facilities in upper McKell Park and, rehabilitation and regeneration of native

Noted local historian and author, Tom Richmond, has also strongly supported and actively sought to increase Brooklyn's profile as a major contributor in Australia's Federation history. He has long been a proponent for recognising the role of Brooklyn in the process of Federation, including the significant bridging of the Hawkesbury river as a seminal point in uniting the then Australian colonies.

**THORNLEIGH**

*La Bottega*



# ENGINEERS SYDNEY



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January 2002



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BRUCE HOWARD

*Welcome to the January 2002 issue of Engineers Sydney.*

Firstly let me wish you all, our members and your families, an enjoyable New Year and that the year ahead may be prosperous for you.

## Your Division Committee

Our Executive Director has listed the elected 2002 Division Committee in his report this month. May I welcome those members who have been willing to give of their time and expertise to serve the Institution. I am honoured to have been given the opportunity to lead this Committee in my role and will be ensuring a productive term of office while the Division is under my stewardship. I would also like to thank the Immediate Past President Andrew Leventhal for his significant contribution over the past 664 (as I calculate) days of his Presidency. I congratulate Professor Vernon Ireland in his election to Vice President and to John Gebler in his re-election as Treasurer. Together with the support of Senior Vice President Steve Finlay, the other Senior Office bearers, Division Committee, the Executive Director and his staff, I look forward to a year of productive consolidation for our Division.

## National Engineering Excellence Awards

In late November with the backdrop of the new National Museum of Australia and with the Governor General in attendance, Sydney Division achieved some outstanding successes.

Bishop Technology Group, our Bradfield winner, took out the Engineering Innovation Award.

Telstras Olympic Cellular Network won an Excellence Award.

Jenny Lam was named as Young Professional Engineer of the Year and Tristram Carfrae won the pinnacle personal award, Professional Engineer of the Year.

Congratulations to all of the finalists and winners.

## Honeywell Engineering Summer School 2001

Last year's summer school was held over 9-14 December. Again it was highly successful with 80 students attending and was ably facilitated by Barbara Deutsche. I attended the final dinner and was impressed with the positive feedback and enthusiasm from the students. This event truly gives the students a "feel" for the profession and has established an enviable reputation for its excellence and effectiveness. We are now even receiving a generational feedback with some houseparents having attended the school some years ago. We thank this years hosts the University of Wollongong, the other supporting Universities, the companies who made their facilities available and particularly this years repeat sponsor Honeywell whose name has now become synonymous with the school. Some photos and a separate article are within this newsletter.

## Congress Meeting November 2001

Two key submissions, both sponsored by Sydney Division, have moved forward.

Firstly, the paper recommending "That Council investigate a new trading name for IEAust as a matter of high priority" has been accepted by Council.

Secondly, Congress has indicated its support for the establishment of a "Centre of Engineering Leadership and Management".

We look forward to both of these proposals moving forward in the near future.

## Meet the National President

Bruce Howard, President, Sydney Division would like to invite you to meet our 2002 National President, Dr Peter Greenwood.

A cocktail party will be held on Monday 18 February at the Duxton Hotel, Alfred St, Milsons Point from 6.30pm.

If you would like to attend please notify Barbara Deutsche on phone 02 8923 7112 or email bdeutsche@ieaust.org.au



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## NEIGHBOURHOOD ENGINEERS

Neighbourhood Engineers are a team of senior undergraduates, graduates and members who are willing to be linked/assist Secondary Schools in their local areas to act as Engineering/Technologist Advisers.

The aim of the scheme is to provide students, parents and teachers with a friendly, informal source of practical support on engineering matters regarding the profession and careers.

As a Neighbourhood Engineer you will assist the teacher in providing information on:

- the scope of the engineering profession
- information on your engineering discipline and
- information on engineering as a career

We have had a number of schools indicate they would like to be part of this initiative and as such, we are seeking Neighbourhood Engineers for the following areas:

Ardlethan	Ashcroft	Avalon
Bardon Ridge	Bonnyrigg	Bowral
Campbelltown	Cranebrook	Dapto
Dubbo	Eagle Vale	Emu Plains
Frenchs Forest	Goulburn	Heathcote
Ingleburn	Kemps Creek	Leumeah
Lithgow	Marayong	Narellan
North Curl Curl	Regents Park	Varroville
Wagga Wagga	Warrimoo	Wentworth

By acting as a resource for a school, a Neighbourhood Engineer will not only help to promote professional engineering careers but also create greater awareness of the vital roles engineers play in our lives and in our society.

Please note - if you are an existing CPEng, this activity would count towards your Continuous Professional Development (CPD).

If you require any information or wish to register with Sydney Division to participate in the Scheme, please contact Robyn Wright (02) 8923 7115, or email [rwright@ieaust.org.au](mailto:rwright@ieaust.org.au)

## Brooklyn Federation Ceremonies

At Brooklyn on the Hawkesbury River, on 7 December, a joint plaquing event took place between the Hornsby Shire Council and the IEAust. The link for this cooperative venture was the Centenary of Federation, 2001. Brooklyn has strong ties with Federation. It was here that members of the 1891 Convention, including first Prime Minister to be, Edmund Barton, drafted Australia's Constitution, the Duke and Duchess of York visited Brooklyn as part of the Federation Celebrations and a view of Brooklyn was on the five pound note until the early 1930s. Hornsby Shire Council reconstructed the foreshore of McKell Park to create a Federation Foreshore and Lookout and a commemorative plaque was unveiled by Mayor Steven Pringle and Senator Marice Payne.

Brooklyn derives its name from its association with the American workforce of the contractor for the first Hawkesbury River Railway Bridge, the Union Bridge Co. The bridge was opened on 1 May 1889 thereby joining the northern railways of New South Wales and Queensland to the southern railways of New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. In his opening speech, Premier Sir Henry Parkes used the symbolism of the physical union to advance the cause of Federation which he repeated later that year in his now famous speech in Tenterfield.

Andrew Leventhal, Immediate Past President of Sydney Division, outlined the Institution's Plaquing Program and the scope of Australian works honoured as National Engineering Landmarks in the Centenary of Federation year 2001. The colonial significance of the first railway bridge and of its 1946 replacement were commemorated with the unveiling of the Institution's plaques by Andrew and Mayor Pringle.

## Excellence Awards 2002

Call for Entries brochures for the 2002 Engineering Excellence Awards will be sent out at the end of January. The closing date for submissions is Friday 31 May. If you would like to receive a copy of the Call for Entries brochure, contact Julie Kennedy on phone 02 8923 7118 or email [jkennedy@ieaust.org.au](mailto:jkennedy@ieaust.org.au).

## 7th International Conference on ISO 9000 & Total Quality Management (7th ICIT)

### CHANGE MANAGEMENT

2-4 APRIL

RMIT Storey Hall, Melbourne,  
Organised by the Centre for Management Quality Research (CMQR),  
at RMIT University, Melbourne,

Conference website: <http://www.hkbu.edu.hk/~samho/7icit.htm>

This international conference series on Quality Management has been held annually since 1996. In 2002 it will be held in Australia for the first time and is anticipated to attract over 150 papers and 20 keynote addresses delivered by delegates and experts from 21 countries.

The theme is focused on **Change Management** as a means of effective implementation of Quality Systems. Issues and knowledge from a range of industries will be explored in ten separate streams. More details of the streams can be found at the conference website.

As a special incentive for IEAust members, a discount of 20% off the registration fee will be available at \$795 for up to the cut-off date of 8 February. After that the fee will be \$880 (at 10% discount), till fully subscribed. The members should provide their IEAust affiliation details when applying for registration.

Enquiries to Warren Staples or G.Srikanthan, phone 03 9925-7513 or 03 9925 7211, fax 03 9925 7696, email [7icit@rmit.edu.au](mailto:7icit@rmit.edu.au)

### CONFERENCE CO-CHAIR:

**PROF JOHN DALRYMPLE**  
Director, CMQR  
RMIT University

**PROF SAM HO**  
Hong Kong  
Baptist University